

**In the Claims:**

Please replace all previous claim listings with the following claim listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for selectively allowing ~~a user of a multi-user system~~ access to a plurality of resources in a network, the method comprising:

receiving a request originated from ~~the~~ a user of a multi-user system to transmit a message via the multi-user system over the network to one of the plurality of resources, wherein each of the plurality of resources has been assigned to one of a plurality of security zones based on a level of security sensitivity of the resource;

~~identifying, from a one of the~~ plurality of security zones ~~that is, a security zone~~ associated with the one of the plurality of resources;

determining if the user of the multi-user system is authorized access to the identified one of the plurality of security zones ~~security zone~~; and

forwarding the message from the multi-user system over the network ~~to the one of the~~ ~~plurality of resources~~ only if it is determined that the user is authorized access to the identified one of the plurality of security zones. ~~security zone.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the multi-user system comprises a mainframe computer, and wherein the request is originated on a workstation of the mainframe computer. ~~further comprising the step of associating a security zone with each of the plurality of resources.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein the mainframe computer receives the request originated from the user, identifies the one of the plurality of security zones associated with the one of the plurality of resources, and determines if the user is authorized access to the one of the plurality of resources. ~~further comprising the step of specifying the security zones to which users of the multi-user system are authorized access.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein the step of identifying the one of the plurality of security zones ~~security zone~~ associated with the one of the plurality of resources comprises accessing a data structure that specifies the security zone associated with each resource in the plurality of resources.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein at least one entry in the data structure specifies the security zone associated with a group of the resources in the plurality of resources, and wherein identifying the one of the plurality of security zones ~~security zone~~ associated with the one of the plurality of resources comprises identifying the security zone associated with the most specific entry in the data structure that includes the resource.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the identifying and determining steps are performed within the multi-user system.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the message forwarded over the network includes a first user identification associated with the multi-user system but does not include a second user identification associated with the user of the multi-user system. ~~the step of determining if the user is authorized access to the identified comprises querying a security manager of the multi-user system to determine if the user is authorized access to the security zone associated with the one of the plurality of resources.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~[[7]]~~ 1, wherein the identifying and determining steps are performed ~~request to transmit a message is denied if it is determined that the user is not authorized access to the security zone associated with the one of the plurality of resources before any data packets associated with the message are forwarded over the network.~~

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the network is an internet protocol network.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A system for selectively allowing ~~a user of a multi-user system~~ access to a plurality of resources in a network, comprising:

means for receiving a request originated from ~~the~~ a user of a multi-user system to transmit a message via the multi-user system over the network to one of the plurality of resources, wherein each of the plurality of resources has been assigned to one of a plurality of security zones based on a level of security sensitivity of the resource;

means for identifying ~~from a one of the~~ plurality of security zones that is, ~~a security zone~~ associated with the one of the plurality of resources;

means for determining if the user of the multi-user system is authorized access to the identified one of the plurality of security zones ~~security zone~~; and

means for forwarding the message from the multi-user system over the network ~~to the one of the plurality of resources~~ only if it is determined that the user is authorized access to the identified one of the plurality of security zones. ~~security zone~~.

15. (Original) The system of Claim 14, further comprising means for associating a security zone with each of the plurality of resources.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 15, further comprising means for specifying in advance of receiving the request the security zones to which users of the multi-user system are authorized access.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 14, wherein the means for identifying the one of the plurality of security zones ~~security zone~~ associated with the one of the plurality of resources comprise means for accessing a data structure that specifies the security zone associated with each resource in the plurality of resources.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 17, wherein at least one entry in the data structure specifies the security zone associated with a group of the resources in the plurality of resources, and wherein the means for identifying the one of the plurality of security zones ~~security zone~~ associated with the one of the plurality of resources comprises means for identifying the security zone associated with the most specific entry in the data structure that includes the resource.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for selectively allowing ~~a user of a multi-user system~~ access to a plurality of resources in a network, comprising:

a computer-readable storage medium having computer-readable program code embodied in said medium, said computer-readable program code comprising:

computer program product means for receiving a request originated from ~~the~~ a user of a multi-user system to transmit a message via the multi-user system over the network to one of the plurality of resources, wherein each of the plurality of resources has been assigned to one of a plurality of security zones based on a level of security sensitivity of the resource;

computer program product means for identifying, ~~from a~~ one of the plurality of security zones that is, ~~a security zone~~ associated with the one of the plurality of resources;

computer program product means for determining if the user of the multi-user system is authorized access to the identified one of the plurality of security zones ~~security zone~~; and

computer program product means for forwarding the message from the multi-user system over the network ~~to the one of the plurality of resources~~ only if it is determined that the user is authorized access to the identified one of the plurality of security zones. ~~security zone.~~

20. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 19, further comprising computer program product means for associating a security zone with each of the plurality of resources.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 20, further

comprising computer program product means for specifying in advance of receiving the request the security zones to which users of the multi-user system are authorized access.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 19, wherein the computer program product means for identifying the one of the plurality of security zones ~~security zone~~ associated with the one of the plurality of resources comprise computer program product means for accessing a data structure that specifies the security zone associated with each resource in the plurality of resources.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 22, wherein at least one entry in the data structure specifies the security zone associated with a group of the resources in the plurality of resources, and wherein the computer program product means for identifying the one of the plurality of security zones ~~security zone~~ associated with the one of the plurality of resources comprises computer program product means for identifying the security zone associated with the most specific entry in the data structure that includes the resource.

24. (Original) A method for selectively allowing a user of a multi-user system access to a plurality of resources in a network, the method comprising:

receiving a message over the network from one of the plurality of resources that is addressed to a process running on the multi-user system that is associated with the user;  
identifying, from a plurality of security zones, a security zone associated with the one of the plurality of resources;  
determining if the user is authorized access to the identified security zone; and  
forwarding the message to the process only if it is determined that the user is authorized access to the identified security zone.

25. (New) A data processing system for selectively allowing access to a plurality of

resources in a network, comprising:

a data processing device, the data processing device connected to a first network that includes a plurality of networked resources;

a plurality of workstations that are configured to execute applications on the data processing device;

a first data structure that specifies at least one security zone from a plurality of security zones that is associated with each of the plurality of networked resources, wherein each of the plurality of security zones represents a distinct level of security sensitivity; and

a second data structure that specifies the respective security zones to which a plurality of users of the data processing device may have access.

26. (New) The data processing system of Claim 25, wherein the first data structure comprises a mapping table that identifies the respective one of the plurality of security zones associated with each of the plurality of networked resources, wherein at least some of the entries in the mapping table are associated with multiple of the plurality of networked resources.

27. (New) The data processing system of Claim 26, wherein entries in the mapping table include wildcard characters to specify multiple of the plurality of networked resources with a single entry in the mapping table.

28. (New) The method of Claim 24, wherein the multi-user system identifies the security zone associated with the one of the plurality of resources and determines if the user is authorized access to the identified security zone.